CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 2 JUNE 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHILE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING TWO STATEMENTS ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE ON 11 AND 28 MAY 1998 IN CONNECTION WITH THE NUCLEAR TESTS CARRIED OUT BY INDIA AND PAKISTAN, RESPECTIVELY

The Permanent Mission of Chile presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to request it to distribute as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament the two attached statements issued by the Government of Chile on 11 and 28 May 1998 in connection with the nuclear tests carried out by India and Pakistan, respectively.

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PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Chile expresses its most forceful rejection of the recent nuclear explosions carried out by the Government of India. These constitute an unnecessary threat to international peace and security, since in today's world they are completely without justification.

In addition, they seriously harm the process of entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty, to which the vast majority of the international community stands committed.

Furthermore, in carrying out those tests, India, as a founding member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, is breaching the agreements reached at the eleventh summit meeting of heads of State and Government of the Movement held in Cartagena, Colombia, which are intended to promote nuclear disarmament. The Government of Chile is steadfast in its policy of rejection of nuclear explosions as well as any acts which run counter to the collective efforts of the international community to eliminate nuclear arsenals.

Santiago, 11 May 1998

PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Chile expresses its most forceful rejection and condemnation of the nuclear explosions carried out this morning by the Government of Pakistan. They constitute a further threat to international peace and security and represent a backward step vis-à-vis nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects.

At the same time, the Government of Chile expresses its concern at the destabilizing effect of these actions for South Asia.

In addition, these explosions violate the agreements and declarations of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, of which Pakistan is a member, as reaffirmed at the Non-Aligned ministerial meeting held in Cartagena between 18 and 20 May this year.

Chile reiterates its steadfast policy of rejection and condemnation of nuclear explosions carried out by any member of the international community. The Government of Chile calls on all States which have not yet done so to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty without conditions.

Santiago, 28 May 1998